Message Text

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43

ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 SS-15 NSC-05 SP-02 SAM-01 SAB-01

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PA-02 RSC-01 USIA-15 PRS-01 AID-05 AGR-10 /094 W

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R 291421Z OCT 74 FM AMEMBASSY CAIRO TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9814 INFO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

UNCLAS CAIRO 8531

E.O. 11652: NA TAGS: PFOR, EG, UR

SUBJECT: GOE/USSR TRADE RELATIONS

- 1. OVER WEEK-END, CAIRO PRESS HAS HAD SEVERAL ARTICLES ABOUT BRIGHTENING PROSPECTS FOR GOE/USSR ECONOMIC AND COMMERCIAL RELATIONS.
- 2. ON OCTOBER 27, PRESS REPORTED MEETING IN CAIRO BETWEEN EGYPTIAN ELECTRIC POWER ORGANIZATION AND SOVIET TEAM CONCERNING POSSIBLE SOVIET SUPPLY OF EQUIPMENT FOR RENOVATION OF ASWAN HIGH DAM ELECTRIC POWER STATION. ON FOLLOWING DAY GOE/USSR COMMITTEE WAS REPORTEDLY SET UP TO REVIEW DRAFT TRADE PROTOCOL DRAWN UP IN CAIRO AT MEETING OCT 27 BETWEEN MINISTER OF TRADE AND SOVIET COMMERCIAL ATTACHE. PROTOCOL FOR 1974 WILL, ACCORDING TO PRESS, BE SIGNED DURING BREZHNEV'S JANUARY VISIT TO CAIRO. MINISTER OF TRADE WAS ALSO REPORTED TO HAVE ASKED EGYPTIAN COTTON ORGANIZATION TO SEND 17,500 KANTARS OF COTTON TO USSR.
- 3. IN PRESS CONFERENCE FEATURED IN ALL CAIRO PAPERS OCT 29, GOE MIN PLANNING ABDALLAH ANNOUNCED USSR HAS AGREED RECHANNEL SOVIET LOANS AMOUNTING TO 250 MILLION RUBLES TO NEW PROJECTS, SINCE THOSE FOR WHICH LOANS HAD BEEN EARMARKED HAD LATER BEEN FOUND UNSUITABLE. HE ADDED THAT USSR WILL PARTICIPATE IN INTERIM DEVELOPMENT PLAN, CONTRIBUTING 59 MILLION OF TOTAL UNCLASSIFIED

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ESTIMATED REQUIREMENT OF L.E. 468 MILLION. EGYPT WILL BUILD

TWO NUCLEAR POWER STATIONS WITH USG AND SOVIET HELP.

4. IN REPLY TO QUESTION, MIN PLANNING SAID THAT DURING FAHMY'S MOSCOW VISIT IN MID-OCTOBER USSR HAD DEMONSTRATED READINESS TO OFFER LOAN FACILITIES OF 300 MILLION RUBLES DURING GOE FIVE-YEAR PLAN (1975-1980). EILTS

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994 Channel Indicators: n/a

Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED

Concepts: FOREIGN TRADE, DEVELOPMENT LOANS, PROGRAMS (PROJECTS) Control Number: n/a

Copy: SINGLE Draft Date: 29 OCT 1974 Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960 Decaption Note: Disposition Action: n/a Disposition Approved on Date: Disposition Authority: n/a Disposition Case Number: n/a Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:

Document Number: 1974CAIRO08531 Document Source: CORE Document Unique ID: 00

Drafter: n/a Enclosure: n/a Executive Order: N/A Errors: N/A

Film Number: D740308-0366

From: CAIRO

Handling Restrictions: n/a

Image Path:

Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19741011/aaaaaivf.tel

Line Count: 68

Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM Office: ACTION NEA Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED Original Handling Restrictions: n/a Original Previous Classification: n/a Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a

Page Count: 2

Previous Channel Indicators: Previous Classification: n/a Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a Reference: n/a Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED Review Authority: izenbei0

Review Comment: n/a Review Content Flags: Review Date: 15 MAR 2002

Review Event:

Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <15 MAR 2002 by chappeld>; APPROVED <11 FEB 2003 by izenbei0>

Review Markings:

Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier: Review Referrals: n/a Review Release Date: n/a Review Release Event: n/a **Review Transfer Date:** Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a

Secure: OPEN Status: NATIVE

Subject: GOE/USSR TRADE RELATIONS

TAGS: PFOR, EG, UR

To: STATE

Type: TE

Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005